

**Finding of No Significant Impact for
Eradication of Isolated Populations of
Light Brown Apple Moth in California
Revised Environmental Assessment
July, 2007**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), has prepared a revised environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes potential environmental consequences of eradicating isolated populations of light brown apple moth (*Epiphyas postvittana*) (LBAM) in California. The EA, incorporated by reference in this document, is available from:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Emergency and Domestic Programs
Emergency Management
4700 River Road, Unit 134
Riverdale, MD 20737-1236

The revised EA analyzed alternatives consisting of (1) maintaining the Federal quarantine order without further action by APHIS (no action alternative), and (2) continuation of the Federal quarantine order along with eradication of isolated populations of LBAM in California with the use of *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) and/or LBAM-specific pheromone (treatment alternative). The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts from eradication treatments of small, isolated populations and determined that any potential impacts would be limited. Since the circumstances surrounding each isolated population are unique, each site will be considered in a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) prior to treatment. This FONSI addresses Sherman Oaks site.

Treatment in Sherman Oaks, California

One male LBAM was found in the area of Sherman Oaks, California, earlier this year. A radius of 200 meters around the moth find will define the treatment area. The treatment area consists of dense residential and commercial area. There are no lakes or streams within the treatment area. The area does not contain any threatened or endangered species. The treatment in this area will consist of using pheromone dispensers that are attached to trees, shrubs, and other fixtures at a rate of 250 dispensers per acre. The dispensers consist of pheromone-impregnated twist ties. These dispensers allow for the continual release of pheromone over the course of 90 days. Treatment in this area is anticipated to occur on or around August 10, 2007. A map of the treatment location is attached.

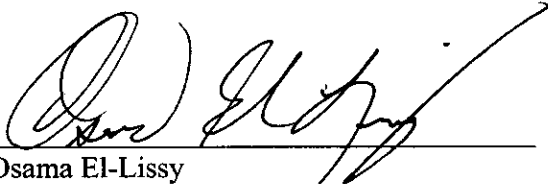
The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts of eradication treatments of small, isolated populations like the one in Sherman Oaks, California. Due to the nature of the dispenser and the pheromone itself, there will be no impacts to nontarget species or humans. In addition, because there will be no impacts to nontarget species or humans from this action, there will be no negative cumulative effects from this action in combination with any other actions. The most

likely impact will be the reduction of the LBAM population eventually leading to the eradication of LBAM in California.

APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) have consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), as required by the Endangered Species Act, for treatments of LBAM-specific pheromone in the Sherman Oaks, California, area. There are no known threatened or endangered species within the treatment area and, therefore, a no-effect determination was made.

There are no disproportionate adverse effects to minorities, low-income populations, or children in accordance with Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations," and Executive Order 13045, "Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks."

APHIS' finding of no significant impact for the Sherman Oaks treatment area is based upon the expected limited environmental consequences, as analyzed in the EA. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared if implementation of the proposed action may significantly affect the quality of the human environment. I have determined that there would be no significant impact to the human environment from the implementation of the treatment alternative and, therefore, no EIS needs to be prepared.


Osama El-Lissy
Emergency and Domestic Programs
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency

8/8/07
Date

**LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH
SHERMAN OAKS, LOS ANGELES COUNTY
200M GROUND TREATMENT**



— 200M BOUNDARY

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